FBIS DAILY REPORT

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JUNTA OUTLINES AMENDMENTS TO POWER STRUCTURE

PY050146Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2155 GMT 4 Aug 78 PY

[Communique released in Buenos Aires on 4 August 1978 by the army secretary general]

[Text] The military junta, in a meeting held on 26 July 1978, set forth the amendments to the basic documents regarding the relations between the military junta and national executive power. The amendments have been made through an institutional act which introduced changes in the statute on the process of national reorganization and through a law modifying the rules for the functioning of the military junta, the national executive branch and the Legislative Advisory Commission (CAL) (Law No 21.252 and its amendment No 21.585). Additional provisions to these documents have been included in two resolutions and in the respective acts. In another law, the military committee is also created.

The most important measures can be summarized as follows:

1. Military Junta

A. It will excercise the rights of Clause 14 (regarding the signing of peace, alliance, border delimitation and neutrality treaties) of Article 86 of the national Constitution which grants power to the national executive branch, including Clause 19 (regarding peace, alliance, border delimitation and neutrality treaties) of Article 67 which grants power to congress.

B. It will be able through the national executive power to call upon the members of the national and provincial governments for information and advice. The head of the executive power will have the right to attend this meeting, for which the junta will have to be notified.

C. Based on the experience acquired, the formal aspects of the mechanisms of the military junta's work will be regulated.

2. National Executive Power

A. It will be headed by a high-ranking retired officer of the armed forces unanimously elected by the military junta.

--The appointment will be made 6 months before the end of the presidential term of the head of the national executive power and must be carried out during a period not exceeding 30 days.

--He will be appointed for a 3-year period and can be relected only once for the same period.

--His removal must be unanimously decided by the military junta.

B. It will annually report to the military junta in March on the results of the administration during the previous year and will provide the general government guidelines for the current year.

C. It will be able to request, if necessary, a meeting of the military junta through the junta's secretariat.

3. Provincial Governors

A. They will be appointed by the national executive branch by prior agreement with the military junta.

B. The term of government of the provincial governors will be the same as the national executive power which appointed them and they can be reelected only once. Their total term in office can never exceed 6 consecutive years.

C. Their removal is the right of the national executive power with a prior report to the military junta.

4. Ministers Plenipotentiary and Charges d'Affaires

A. They will be appointed by the national executive power by prior agreement with the military junta.

B. Their removal or change of destination will be the right of the national executive power with a prior report of this decision to the military junta.

5. Judges of the Supreme Court, the National Attorney General, the General Prosecutor of the National Administrative Investigations Department and Members of the National Accounting Office

A. The national executive power will propose three names to the military junta to fill these positions and the junta will appoint them.

B. The appointment of judges in the lower courts will be made by the president of the nation.

6. Commanders in Chief of the Armed Forces

A. Their designation and relief will be done in accordnace with the procedures of each branch.

B. The new commander in chief will be installed by the outgoing commander in their respective branches in a specific ceremony held in the specific branch.

C. The incoming commander, once presented by the outgoing commander, will be incorporated into the military junta. The president of the nation will be present at that ceremony.

The swearing-in will take place during that ceremony and the government notary will legalize the change by signing the appropriate document.

7. Military Committee

A. It will be made up of the commanders in chief of the armed forces and the president of the nation.

B. The military committee will be in charge of all matters related to policies and strategies regarding national security and the assignment, coordination and supervision of duties in this area.

C. The military committee can call on the ministers of the national cabinet, the chiefs of the general staffs of the armed forces, the chief of the joint staff and any civilian or military officials to provide information and/or advice on matters concerning their areas if necessary.

D. The staffs of the armed forces and the joint staff will be the executive organization [organo de trabajo] of the military committee. As soon as the new version of the basic documents, including the new amendments, is finished, it will be published in the official bulletin and the necessary distribution will be made.

MONTES HAS UNSCHEDULED MEETING WITH U.S. ENVOY

PY041439Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINA in Spanish 1220 GMT 4 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 4 Aug--Sources consulted today would not confirm whether Argentine Foreign Minister Oscar Montes had given U.S. Ambassador Raul Castro a letter from Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla to be delivered to U.S. President James Carter.

Montes called Castro in yesterday to the San Martin Palace, and the U.S. ambassador, whose visit was not on the agenda of official activities of the Foreign Ministry, arrived at 1905. Fifteen minutes later, Castro was seen leaving with a yellow envelope in his hand. This drew attention since he was not seen with the envelope when he entered.

Castro did not discuss the contents of the envelope and only explained that he talked with Montes about "some matter of common interest to the two countries." The U.S. ambassador, who called his visit "routine," also stated that he had reported to the Foreign Minister regarding the periodic visits he is making to the interior of the country, and regarding other future visits to Corrientes and Misiones.

GENERAL MOTORS TO STOP OPERATIONS IN ARGENTINA

PY051930Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1524 GMT 4 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 4 Aug--General Motors Argentina notified its personnel today that the firm will stop manufacturing automobiles and will proceed to sell the firm. The date for definite closing will be announced in approximately 15 days. A communique distributed to personnel today makes it clear that severance pay will be paid and, paradoxically, it announces a 12-percent "voluntary increase" of salaries effective 1 August. The closure affects 4,000 workers at the Barracas and San Martin plants in Buenos Aires Province. The communique definitely discounts rumors that the firm will be remodeled to manufacture locomotives.

The most important sections of the long communique state:

"General Motors S.A. announces that by decision of its shareholders, it will stop manufacturing automobiles in the country and proceed to sell the firm. The closure will be implemented in such a way as to meet all contracted commitments. Despite this decision, there is a production plan still to be completed, during which time all the responsibilities regarding labor and benefits will be met. The approximate date of the closure for each sector will be announced within 15 calendar days of today.

"Together with this decision, the following measures are implemented: 1) Beginning on 1 August 1978 the firm will voluntarily increase your wage or current salary on 31 July by 12 percent; 2) The firm will consider a monthly updating of your basic wage or salary if you continue working after 1 September 1978; 3) The level of wage or salary resulting from applying the voluntary increase or scheduled updating mentioned in points 1 and 2 will include any increase resulting from legal provisions that may be enforced on or after 1 August 1978 unless such increase exceeds the level of the voluntary increase or the scheduled updating."

The firm also stated that it has established a special severance pay system aimed especially at compensating senior personnel who might find difficulty in obtaining a new job.

PEREDA SAYS ELECTIONS POSSIBLE IN 24 MONTHS

PY070246Y La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 0007 GMT 7 Aug 78 PY

[Speech to nation by President Juan Pereda Asbun, delivered in La Paz on 6 Aug--recorded]

[Text] Bolivians, this historic anniversary of our fatherland has always provided the appropriate framework for the [word indistinct] and for making great decisions. During the colonial denomination, 153 years ago, Bolivia had to choose its destiny; today facing the various options which human evolution provides us, our nation must choose the one most in line with its true nationalism.

The war waged by our forefathers to attain their independence has not ended. In spite of the years which have elapsed and the changes experienced by humanity, the Third World countries continue to endure foreign domination, exploitation by the strongest, the arrogance of those who [words indistinct]. In view of this situation the Asian, African and Latin American people who wish to implement sovereign development, must continue struggling for their freedom.

In line with our revolutionary convictions we believe that all people have a right to use the work and struggle methods best suited to their particular realities. Those who seek to impose unilateral models or ideologies, regardless of how they attempt to disguise them, do nothing but harp on obsolete methods of international relations.

It is unfortunate that the same ghosts through which the colonialists of times past attempted to undermine the quality of our people are still ruling the minds of those who presume to be the creators of universal justice.

Within the framework of this system and taking all possible consequences in account, the Bolivian people have decided to establish a temporary democratic government which will take only the time strictly necessary to make all the broad changes required for the final participation of the people in the organization of state braches and the operation of those branches. We are executing a plan necessary for the full constitutionalization of the country. Without the changes based on experience it is possible that domestic disagreements and resistence would have continued disrupting the process of democratization which requires executors fully committed to the idea of democracy. From among the forms of government sought by humanity throughout its history, which is an anguished and cruel struggle of man for freedom, democracy thus far has been in the best system of governmental organization. It is characteristic of a government for the people (?that it be based) on representation, on the delegation of organizational functions, on the sovereignty which can come only from the people themselves.

The difficulties have been and will always be found in the history of each country. The effectiveness of the popular will demands two conditions which should be valid for all Bolivains: freedom and equality. This is why for us democracy necessarily means an atmosphere for attaining equality, because this is achieved only through a fair distribution of wealth. [applause]

Freedom without really overcoming need is only relative. And this is the meaning of the independence which we should strive for. It is a process in which democracy is necessary, despite all its limitations; a democracy adapted to the needs and conditions of our country.

With the structural weakness of underdevelopment caused by dependency, democracy will be equally weak. Of course, the underdevelopment is not only economic, it is also cultural. Therefore, a vigorous political democracy demands an equally vigorous social democracy, which in our country is hindered by underdevelopment, by disparities between urban and rural sectors, by the differences between the rich and the poor and by other characteristics of underdevelopment. Our hope, avoiding mechanical copies of foreign methods, is that the new democracy will not depend exclusively and [word indistinct] on periodic vote casting, but that it will produce a permanent system of popular participation. [applause]

Our country's last elections had many shortcomings, if we are to be honest with ourselves. But a dispassionate, honest and patriotically objective analysis would conclude that the elections were neither better nor worse than other elections with a universal vote. One of the greatest difficulties--we could say, of a macrosocial nature--was the lengthy span of time without experience in voting. This lack of practice resulted in a sort of political stagnation. The very supporters of the political opening hesitated when doubts arose concerning the revival of a system which, because of its defects, did not inspire faith. To that difficulty we should add the practice of universal voting in isolated regions without modern communications media.

Everywhere in the world where democracy depends on a political constitution, exercising the universal vote demands greater and broader civic education, in order to effectively implement it. There are greater social demands of public responsibility in an environment in which, in addition to a lack of means, there are prejudices and mutual doubts.

Political parties--whatever their position or ideology--have enormous responsibilities, since they are not only groups representing certain principles or interests, but also schools of civic duty and permanent teaching institutions. Universal voting demands greater efforts to adequately orient the citizenry so that it may, in effect, become a means for the conscientious participation of the people.

Despite all its defects the July elections have served as a valuable reassertion of political and social awareness. In addition to being a useful and difficult experience, those beginnings, those elections, indicated the political forces which are at this time solemnly committed to drawing up the procedural and institutional reforms needed to insure peace and civilized coexistence. A constructive understanding among those forces, without their having to renounce their positions, would enhance a joint and coherent effort to fulfill the historic goal of organizing a truly democratic society, without foreign interference or aggressive distortions. [applause]

The sincerity and clarity of our initiative in holding free general elections reflect our willingness to have the participation of political parties so that, together with the executive power, we can plan and carry out the measures necessary to hold elections in accordance with the timetable and the technical requirements necessary for its organization.

This means that my government is inviting political parties to define their preelectoral attitude along the lines of a joint effort. Real democracy can only be achieved through patriotic agreement. Government and political parties must continually engage in dialog, and in so doing they will create the basis for preelectoral activities. The electoral process will be pure and true, and must start constructive criticism with enough imagination to create improved methods and systems of work. [applause]

We have set a timetable for the holding of general elections and in each instance we have taken into account the time necessary to meet the technical requirements. It seems to us that 24 months is the minimum that is required if the elections are not to fall victim to the mistakes and irregularities experienced previously. If the political parties, the armed forces and the government agree that this timetable should be modified, the government I head will accept their proposal with the greatest seriousness and responsibility, inspired only by the goal of serving the nation. [applause]

There are some difficulties in achieving this noble objective since it is affected by the time limitation, by the fact that it is taking place on the 100th anniversary of the War of the Pacific and by the fact that an appropriate study [words indistinct] basic amendments (?for the elections) must take place.

With regard to the time remaining, only 5 months are left in this year and we believe that during 1979 the nation's attention should not be distracted with electoral problems. Therefore, we have set up a timetable which no event will exceed 24 months for the transfer of power to a constitutional government.

The major changes to be considered as part of the electoral mechanism of the new democracy are related to the following items: 1) paper ballots, 2) participation of minority groups, 3) voter registration, 4) identification documents, 5) guidelines for the organization of political parties and 6) banning of all foreign intervention, as well as any other measure aimed at contributing to a serious and reliable election.

I hereby delcare that this president will not be a candidate in the next elections. At the same time I would also like to report that my government will observe complete impartiality as a rule. [applause]

Bolivians: We are at a crucial moment in our nation's history. There are problems which should be resolved with deep [words indistinct]. Parallel to the constitutionalization process the administrative power will operate with the effectiveness, discipline and honesty which the present situation demands. There will be a frank, permanent and public dialog with union, professional and political organizations, as well as with other institutions. We will progress in establishing university autonomy, permanently and mutually binding students to the people. For this I call on the patriotism of our youth, so that they will join in our common effort to achieve true democracy. [applause]

In sum, our purpose is to lay the foundation on which to build a solid framework for the full exercise of human rights. [applause] The armed forces, the guardians of the fatherland, wish to do all they can to see a democratic transition take place without any fratricidal conflict. Aware of their responsibility for both the domestic and foreign security of the fatherland, the military institution undertakes the role of being the basic pillar of the nation. [applause] As a member of the armed forces I will make every possible effort to help attain our own kind of democracy. [applause] On this latest anniversary of our fatherland's independence I want a united Bolivian people to show the world that they can attain happiness and high levels of progress and well-being. Thank you. [applause]

TOPATER GROUP WANTS ELECTIONS WITHIN SIX MONTHS

PY051941Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Aug 78 PY

[Summary] "The Topater civic-military group demands that the government call elections within 180 days, as an immediate constitutionalization measure for the country."

This statement was made to Radio Panamericana by Gen Juan Ayoroa Ayoroa, a leader of that organization. He said: [begin recording] In the Topater civic-military group we are in agreement regarding the democratic and institutionalist position of the organization. "The country should be democratized in the shortest time possible, and the armed forces should limit themselves to their specific tasks, as the constitution says. We believe that we military men should prepare ourselves for any kind of international event and should therefore limit ourselves specifically to our military tasks." [end recording]

General Ayoroa believes that the constitutionalization of the country should not wait until 1980, as General Pereda has hinted in statements to a U.S. magazine.

[Begin Ayoroa recording] "This term is too long and not at all justified. The important thing is to democratize the country as soon as possible." [end recording] He said that this opinion is shared by the political parties participating in the present government, the opposition parties and all the Bolivian people.

Juan Ayoroa Ayoroa was interior minister in Gen Alfredo Ovando Candia's de facto government.

ANAYA QUESTIONS U.S. AMBASSADOR'S PROPRIETY

PY050157Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Resumption of diplomatic relations with the U.S. Government has been termed satisfactory by Foreign Minister Ricardo Anaya Arce. Anaya told reporters that this decision, which was learned at noon today, Friday, will allow us to strengthen our relations with the U.S. Government and people. He also said that the U.S. Government shares the friendly attitude of so many countries which have already expressed their desire to continue maintaining relations with the Bolivian Government.

Asked by Bolivian reporters about the document released by U.S. Ambassador Paul Boeker, expressing the need for the people's democratic participation, he said: Can you imagine? How can an illustrious diplomat such as the ambassador of the United States, a mature country, include such an insinuation in the note in question?

Meanwhile, during the past few hours the Bolivian Government has received the recognition of representatives from Great Britian and Hungary as well. Foreign Ministry spokesmen also stated that during the next few hours the number of nations which have recognized the government of General Pereda will be increasing. As of today, Friday, a total of 34 governments, from America, Europe and Asia, have recognized the government of President Juan Pereda.

BRIEFS

LOCAL CARS ON MARKET--Under Secretary of Industry (Alfredo Mercado Allende) stated today that the first locally assembled car will come on the market during the first half of August. (Mercado Allende) added that the car industry program is developing as scheduled. [La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 31 Jul 78 PY]

STRIKES IN KEY SECTORS

Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 4 Aug 78 PY

[Text] President Ernesto Geisel today signed a decree law banning strikes involving public services and essential activities affecting national security. In Article 1 the decree establishes that the following essential activities are of interest to national security and therefore the Constitution bans strikes affecting these areas: water supply and sewage services, power, petroleum, gas and other fuels, banking, transportation, communications, loading and unloading, hospitals, ambulances, maternity facilities, pharmacies and any other industries which may be designated by the president of the republic. The decree signed today also considers essential and of interest to national security all federal, state or municipal public services which are provided directly or through concessionaries, including those of the federal district.

For the purpose of this decree law, any attitude on the part of employees which may result in the cessation of activities or the reduction of a normal work pace will be considered a strike. Besides the appropriate penal sanctions, an employee who participates in a strike affecting public services or essential activities will be committing a serious offense and will be subject to the following punishments which could be applied either individually or collectively within 30 days of the occurrence of the strike, regardless of the findings: warning, suspension up to 30 days, termination of contract or justified dismissal. However, a worker who has achieved stability on the job will be dismissed only after facing a summary trial.

The decree also states that apart from the penal sanctions, a union leader or a member of the professional supervisory council [conselho de fiscalizacao profissional] who directly or indirectly supports or promotes a strike to the detriment of the public or essential activities, will be subject to the following punishments: warning, suspension, dismissal or cancellation of his term in office by the Labor Ministry.

In relation to the issuance of this decree law, the presidential press secretariat has issued the following official note:

The federal Constitution expressly bans strikes affecting public services and activities which are legally considered essential. However, although establishing strict penal sanctions for strikes in these sectors, the laws in force do not allow employers or public offices themselves to take administrative provisions to determine the employee's responsibility in each case and to adopt prompt, effective measures to guarantee compliance with the constitutional provision. Therefore, the government has considered it necessary to issue a decree law to outline essential activities related to national security and to make immediate actions reasible in case of infringement of the constitutional provision.

In the Senate, Senator Itamar France objected to decree law No 1,632 which was issued today by the president of the republic implementing a new regulation of the country's strike law. Franco said that apart from being an affront to the legislative branch, this decree law is already unconstitutional in Article 1 since this article violates Article 162 of the Constitution by establishing that the president of the republic will be able to determine those sectors in which strikes are banned.

Franco noted that Article 1 is unconstitutional because Article 162 of the Constitution states that those areas in which strikes are banned will be established only through a law. He also criticized Article 3 of the decree law, which establishes punishments for strikers. He also said that this presidential decree was not necessary because the strike issue is well defined in the Constitution. Senators Gilvan Rocho, Mauro Benevides and Evelasio Vieira of the Brazilian Democratic Movement expressed support for Franco's remarks, while Senator Virgilio Tavora rejected them.

LAWYERS PREPARING CASES FOR, AGAINST EXTRADITION

PY0421144Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1512 GMT 4 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 4 Aug--Two Chilean lawyers are preparing their "battery of arguments" to support and to oppose, respectively, the request for extradition of three Chilean Army officers charged by the U.S. courts with participating in the murder of former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier in September 1976 in Washington.

Alfredo Etcheberry announced last night that he will file the U.S. requests for extradition of Gen Manuel Contreras (ret), former top head of the dissolved National Intelligence Directorate, and of Col Pedro Espinoza and Capt Armando Fernandez.

Etcheberry did not set aside "the possibility that other extraditions may be requested" in relation to this case. He also stated that around 20 August the official requests for extradition will arrive in Chile and that he may travel to the United States before that date "to see whether the evidence is in line with the requirements of Chilean law." This evidence, which "will be public record the same as the hearings," stated Etcheberry, must be studied by the Supreme Court, which will decide whether the three extradition requests will be granted.

Etcheberry did not discount the possibility that other names may appear during the coming investigations regarding the Letelier case, such as Liliana Walker, who accompanied Capt Armando Fernandez during his stay in the United States to keep watch over former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier. Regarding the attitude of the Chilean Government, Etcheberry said that "it promptly and appropriately fulfilled what was requested, which demonstrates its broad sense of cooperation."

Meanwhile, lawyer Sergio Miranda has been preparing the defense of both Gen Manuel Contreras (ret) and Col Pedro Espinoza. It has not yet been reported who will defend Capt Armando Fernandez, the third man indicted in the case. Contreras has been under house arrest while Espinoza and Fernandez are now in a military hospital in this capital. They are all under military custody and preventive arrest for 2 months until extradition proceedings start.

Colonel Espinoza arrived on a direct flight from Punta Arenas, where he was complying with his duties as commander of the (?Pudeto) regiment in the southernmost city of Chile.

The major issue to be discussed in the next few days will be to determine whether the murder of Foreign Minister Letelier was a political crime. If the Chilean court regards the Letelier murder as a political crime it could deny the extradition of the three army officers on this ground. And the three defendants will then have to be tried before a Chilean court.

FOREIGN MINISTER SPEAKS ON LETELIER CASE

PA0700042Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2117 GMT 6 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 6 Aug (AFP)--Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos today announced here that his country may return to the Andean group. He also reaffirmed the military government's decision to return to democracy.

In statements to a radio network, the minister again attacked the United States for interfering in Chilean affairs and denied the existence of political prisoners in his country. Referring to the Andean Pact, he said that Chile might return to it--after withdrawing from it in 1976--if the policies of that organization "are not incompatible with Chile's economic development program." In his opinion, the Chilean Government is "stable" because it has the "support of the majority" of Chileans.

Regarding the case of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier, who was assassinated in Washington, he said that that case must be resolved by the court of justice. In response to a question, he said: "We have never been under U.S. supervision; we would never accept that."

He then commented that his country trusts there will be peaceful solutions to the conflicts with Bolivia and Argentina. The Chilean foreign minister is in Colombia to attend presidential inauguration ceremonies scheduled for Monday, 7 August.

ANTIGOVERNMENT FORCES CREATE COORDINATING GROUP

PY032346Y Santiago Chile EL MERCURIO in Spanish 2 Aug 78 third section p 7 PY

[Text] The Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] has expressed its support for the Communist Party [PC] through its bulletin EL REBELDE (which is distributed clandestinely) by applauding the establishment of the National Union Coordinating Group [Coordinadora Nacional Sindical], headed by Manuel Bustos, as "a good step forward."

According to EL REBELDE, there has been an agreement between Christian Democracy [PDC] and the PC for months to make up the coordinating group jointly. It states: "By agreements at party level the PDC had decided to participate in the National Union Coordinating Group. Sepulveda [presumably Juan Manuel Sepulveda, leader of Chilean Federation of Metallurgical Unions], Mery and Bustos participated in the coordinating group on the basis of that agreement." It indicates that after it was censured by the "Group of 10," Bustos told a Santiago morning newspaper: "I repeat that the National Union Coordinating Group is nothing new. The issue has always been in my hands and the 'Group of 10' knew it and admitted it."

The MIR indicated that until 1 May 1978 there was an agreement between the "Group of 10" and the coordinating group and that until that moment foreign union groups which met with the two groups left convinced that this coordinating group signified the development of a "new cut" [trade union confederation].

The MIR bulletin adds that this alliance with the PDC ended when it was clear that this alliance was merely a transitory circumstantial action for the "apolitical unionism" supported by the PDC, aimed at "being used by the bourgeois opposition to accumulate power."

Along the same line of criticism, EL REBELDE charges the "Group of 10" with being closely linked to the AFL-CIO, "a U.S. union organization which seeks democratic, apolitical and anti-Marxist unionism."

In the same bulletin the MIR expresses recognition of the firmness of the present government when it states that the illusions of those who believed that "the opposition of [Eduardo] Frei's PDC and of the church" would "cause the dictatorship to fall have vanished and will continue vanishing." It expresses a similar disillusionment regarding those who thought that the "Carter government's international cordon around Pinochet's government" would be sufficient.

GOVERNMENT DECLARES ANTICIPATED MINE WORKERS STRIKE ILLEGAL

PA041350Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1217 GMT 4 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Lima, 4 Aug (LATIN)--The nationwide indefinite general mine workers strike which begins today has been declared "illegal" by the Peruvian labor authorities, according to official reports. The strike will affect the principal copper production centers, the National Federation of Mine and Metallurgical Workers of Peru said.

The Labor Ministry declared the strike, which will be supported by a majority of the 70,000 mine workers, illegal. In a resolution published last night, the Labor Ministry said that the strike declaration is signed by former mine leaders and workers who do not represent the labor force.

The federation is demanding the rehiring of approximately 400 mine workers who were fired more than 1 year ago for supporting a "national strike." Eighty-six of these workers were on the CENTROMIN-Peru payrolls. Victor Cuadros, secretary general of the federation, said last night that he exhausted all possibilities in negotiations with the energy and mines ministers "without reaching any positive solutions." He added that the ministers took the federation's proposals to President Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez so that the government could solve its problems, analyze its demands and propose solutions.

Threatens To Punish Federation

PY041548Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 4 Aug 78 PY

[Text] The Labor Ministry has declared unfounded the deadline for a strike announced by the National Federation of Mine and Metallurgical Workers of Peru. The labor organization was notified that it must not strike or it will be punished in accordance with the law.

The ministry indicates that the majority (?of the leaders) who announced this deadline are former leaders who have no labor links with any central in the mining-metallurgical sector and have been fired [from their jobs]. Therefore they lack the power to submit this deadline in the name of the national federation.

Strike Begins

PA050307Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1853 GMT 4 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Lima 4 Aug (LATIN)--The most important Peruvian mines were paralyzed today by an indefinite general strike calling for salary increases and the rehiring of 400 workers dismissed during previous strikes.

The first reports received from the National Federation of Mine and Metallurgy Workers with 40,000 members, said that the strike was being observed in most of the important mining centers. A spokesman of the U.S. Southern Peru Copper Corporation (SPCC) said that workers had not shown up for work this morning in Toquepala, Peru's third most important mine. Cuajone, the country's largest mine, was not affected, but the morning shift of the Ilos foundry and refinery did not report to work.

A labor spokesman said that all the mines operated by the CENTROMIN state enterprise are paralyzed. However, this statement could not be confirmed at the time. The CENTROMIN operations include the great Cerro de Pasco and La Oroya mines.

The state-owned enterprises produce almost half of Peru's copper, silver, lead and tin exports.

Talks between cabinet ministers and labor leaders have not been successful. The workers also demand the derogation of a decree which has for over 2 years maintained the mining industry in an emergency situation and prohibited strikes. However, the most difficult problem is the rehiring of the dismissed workers. Some 300 to 400 workers were dismissed last year in July following a general strike, and in many cases persons have been hired to replace them.

The miners also request a total amnesty, including the suspension of legal measures against the strike organizers. The federation, representing 80 percent of the country's miners, was encouraged by the recent success of a 12-week strike held by Peruvian teachers.

Labor sources say that the workers from HIERROPERU and SIDERPERU, the state-owned iron and steel plants, have joined the strike.

DISAGREEMENTS HINDER DRAFTING OF ASSEMBLY REGULATIONS

PY041532Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Aug 78 PY

[Text] At the conclusion of yesterday's session the multiparty commission which is drafting the Constituent Assembly regulations still had not reached agreement regarding the creation and functioning of the committees. The commission opted to charge a subcommittee with the task of seeking a formula which would serve as the basis for today's final debates.

Somewhat reminiscest of the difficulties encountered by the commission, this subcommittee, formed of Fernando Leon de Vivero of the Peruvian Aprista Party [PAP]; Andres Aramburu Menchaca of the Popular Christian Party [PPC], Roger Caceres Velasquez of the Peasant, Student and Workers Popular Front [FOCEP]; and Jorge Lozada Stambury of the [FOCEP], also could not come to an agreement.

The article, No 27 in the FOCEP's [as heard] draft, is the only article lacking approval, as the other 40 articles have already been approved by the multiparty commission.

There was a surprising disagreement between the FOCEP and the (?Popular Christian Party). In all the prior debates these two parties have always been in full agreement. The disagreement originated in the discussions concerning the formation of the committees which will function in the Assembly.

Regarding this matter, three positions emerged. They are as follows: 1) The president should propose the committee membership [cuadro de comisiones] to the Assembly; 2) The political groups should submit their proposals and on the basis of them the presidency should name the committee staffs; and 3) The political groups should name the committee members from among their own people.

There was also disagreement about the functioning of the committees. Three positions also emerged in this case, as follows: 1) Only committee members can intervene in debates in their committees; 2) Other representatives may intervene, but in a limited form; and 3) All the representatives, whether members of the committees or not, may intervene without limit.

Regarding other matters, yesterday at 2000 the subcommittee concluded its work with the other 40 articles, and they will be reviewed quickly by the multiparty committee at the 1600 meeting.

PEREZ SUPPORTS PANAMA CANAL TREATIES, TORRIJOS

PA061631Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 4 Aug 78 pp 1, 24 EA

[Text of 29 July letter sent by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez to Fabian Echevers, president of the Movement of Independent Lawyers]

[Excerpts] This replies to your letter of 14 June which was also sent to Latin American leaders Jose Lopez-Portillo, president of the United Mexican States, Rodrigo Carazo Odio, president of the Republic of Costa Rica, and Dr Alfonso Lopez Michelsen, president of the Republic of Colombia.

I understand that the historic demands for the effective reestablishment of Panama's sovereignty--something very different from the so-called titular sovereignty, affected by 60 years of foreign occupation--have been given an adequate answer. The arrangements for the transition period guarantee a fixed deadline for the Republic of Panama to attain complete possession and administration of that territory, and this leads to the control and utilization of interoceanic transit activities which, under the monopolistic control of a foreign power, had kept the Republic of Panama in an irritating state of dependency. All this has been achieved through negotiations, which have avoided any need for bloody sacrifices with extremely serious consequences for the people. The other position, very honorable and respectable and of an untarnished purity, would have kept the situation deadlocked, safeguarding principles that all the people and nations in free countries consider as inviolable, but that in this case would only have led to a prolongation of a situation that is already unbearable and humiliating for the Panamanians and for Latin Americans in general, to hatred and to violence. This would produce forces adverse to democracy, would not result in any benefit for Panama and would not achieve the supreme objective of full sovereignty. History has taught us good lessons on the useless tragedies that result from dogmatism and intransigence.

I dare to state that the honor of the Panamanian people has emerged untarnished from this difficult test. Very respectable considerations of a political nature confirm this undeniable fact. The supreme permanent interests of the Panamanian fatherland stand above circumstantial positions, regardless of how justified they may be.

Of course, it is you the Panamanians, who must evalute the pros and cons of such a complex matter filled with emotional and political feelings that on more than one occasion in the history of our countries have resulted in the permanent mutilation of our land.

Now that the treaties have been approved they must be submitted to a test. In facing this test, all Panamanians must put forth their efforts and demonstrate good sense and patriotism.

It would be regrettable if any group were to be insolent enough to think that it alone is capable of deciding what is right and thus ignore other Panamanian sectors in dealing with the many problems and difficulties that will appear in putting the treaties into practice. It would be even worse not to participate in the implementation of the treaties because one does not accept them. The participation and the experience of all will be necessary for the commitment ahead. This commitment cannot be undertaken without collective participation in a country that today appears to be deeply divided.

National understanding is necessary in face of the new situation that has resulted from the treaties. The boldness of what has been done should be matched by greatness from those who dared to make it possible, supported by those who were only mere spectators but no less noble or gallant. Nothing so beautiful has been portrayed in Panama as the recognition that the recovery of national sovereignty over the Canal Zone has been the result of a national struggle that has been carried out by successive generations of republicans.

Upon this historic fact is founded the right and obligation of all Panamanians today to participate in the responsibilities of the administration of the integrated territory, without exclusions motivated by preferences or sectarian discrimination.

The treaties must be given their authentically national character. They are not a booty that grants rights or privileges to those who made the decision to negotiate them. An agreement of this character and importance would show the world, and especially Latin America, the maturity of conscience with which Panama assumes the obligation inherent in this recovery of its territorial integrity and the removal of the most serious obstacle to its national identity.

This unity of wills is attainable only through prior reestablishment of democratic institutions, and here we enter upon consideration of another aspect of the letter I am answering. If the Panamanian nation is not opened to the full enjoyment of democracy, this will unfortunately frustrate this great victory which will provide it with the great and definitive historical opportunity of affirming its confidence and faith in a great national destiny and of creating once and for all the institutions which are founded upon consensus and true national unity with ideological diversity that will lead to the national consolidation of this great triumph. Only in this way will creative forces in the people be generated.

I do not believe in a democratic system that does not call for the renewal of the three fundamental branches or powers of the state the legislative, executive and judicial branches--constitutionally independent and cooperating in the fulfillment of their ends--the reestablishment and enforcement of the fundamental freedoms of expression, assembly, communication and association and individual and social guarantees.

The incidents of 9 January 1964 shook Venezuela's conscience. President Betancourt's government was the first one in America to protest the act of aggression carried out by the U.S. troops stationed in the Canal Zone, to request an end to the abuses being committed, and to seek the recognition of Panama's sovereignty over the canal area. As a member of Congress on the day following these incidents I voted for a resolution similar to the declaration of the Venezuelan council of ministers. I closely followed the course of the negotiations for a new canal treaty. A few hours after my election as president of the republic had been confirmed, I was interviewed by Panamanian journalist Mario Velasquez. When asked my opinion about the performance of the military regime led by General Torrijos in the negotiations with the United States, I responded that although his government had not originated legitimately in a free, popular election, its determined effort to resolve the most important issue that the Panamanian nation has ever confronted deserved support. My words on that occasion defined the line of conduct I have observed since. Throughout my administration I have given General Torrijos' government my frank, determined and full cooperation aimed at victory for the Panamanian cause. I unreservedly acknowledge his courage and historic intuition in confronting this important sovereignty problem and the details, difficulties and alternatives of the negotiations. We have never concealed our talks and meetings, which were numerous. On several occasions I held talks with high-ranking U.S. officials and I sought to make them understand the justness of Panama's demands, insisting that the canal problem concerned not only Panamanians but also all Latin American nations. I have effectively contributed to give the issue its just Latin American dimension. Obvious reasons preclude me from divulging the details of my talks with the Panamanian chief of government. There is nothing that might make him, me or any of the other Latin American rulers who participated actively in the negotiations feel guilty of some weakness.

The frank and direct relationship I maintained with General Torrijos permitted me to tell him my opinion that, once the canal problem had been resolved, he should nobly culminate his meritorious work by firmly and sincerely opening the parth to the re-establishment of democratic institutions in Panama. I can and must say that the chief of government has always listened to me in a deferential manner. I hold a high opinion of his humanistic qualities and democratic mission. His not being able to perform at the level of his greatness would be my greatest disillusionment. This is no idle talk. But your alternatives do not depend on me.

America is anxious to receive examples. It is a well-known fact that some of my best friends are Panamanians who have devoted their energy to a dual struggle for the affirmation and defense of the democratic system in their country and for effective implementation of Panamanian sovereignty over the Canal Zone. I think they have exaggerated their zeal for chemically pure and unachievable solutions. Perhaps on numerous occasions undiluted principles are opposed to reality and the fear to err inhibits action.

I am familiar with your concepts about the regime that was established in Panama on October 1968. On several occasions I have expressed to you my opinion that against all adversity and even under extreme conditions, you should not resign yourselves to making protests and denunciations but instead should continue struggling--even if under serious limitations--in favor of the expansion of the public freedoms that the Panamanian people implemented since the birth of the republic. It seemed to me that the very process of negotiation could provide opportunities to express opinions, to meet and organize groups around such a delicate matter, which at the same time could constitute an irreversible democratic opening. The government offered opportunities for all this at the beginning of the plebiscite's preparation. I believe that had you acted without prejudice and had you acknowledged the success achieved, the process of democratization of Panamanian political life would today be under better conditions and at a more advanced stage. This is all I can say at this point.

I must wait to end my government duties before referring to certain passages in your letter that present a view of my relationship with General Torrijos, that is not in accordance with the facts or with my feelings and intentions. I can only affirm that I maintain the sincere conviction that I acted correctly and that, leaving aside all considerations of a militant political nature, the Panamanian chief of government deserves to be considered in a way that disconnects all circumstantial aspects from the decorum and patriotic determination with which he handled this manner.

FOREIGN MINISTER DENOUNCES EFFORTS TO RECOLONIZE AFRICA

PA051408Y Caracas Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1231 GMT 5 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 4 Aug, (VENPRES)--Today, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi delivered a speech at the closing of the human rights seminar held in this capital. In that speech he noted: The obscure and unacceptable goals of reconquest and re-colonization of Africa must be put to an end. We, Venezuelans, believe the Africans, and only the Africans, are able to determine and decide their own destiny.

Consalvi also stated that if big powers need Africa's raw materials, even if it is uranium, they should negotiate for them, but they must not subject those nations to a new form of slavery, regardless of how subtle or ambiguous it may be. In Africa there are seven wars going on. Hitler has not died completely. He has survived in the apartheid doctrine and practices." [quotation marks as received]

With regard to the Venezuelan position on human rights, Foreign Minister Consalvi said that there are no circumstantial positions or objectives. "This is a matter of undeniable convictions that have been practiced by all our democratic regimes since 1959," the minister stated.

VENEZUELAN, CZECHOSLOVAK OFFICIALS STUDY TRADE PROPOSALS

PA050421Y Caracas Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 2341 GMT 3 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Caracas, 3 Aug (VENPRES)--Vladimir Horak, deputy director of the Latin American department of the Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Ministry, arrived at the Foreign Trade Institute [ICE] to study the points which will be discussed with a Venezuelan trade delegation in Prague soon. The purpose of the meeting was to review trade exchange between the two countries and to study the proposals of the two parties for increasing their trade exchange, as it is believed that it has not met their expectations.

During the meeting, Alfredo Enrique Vargas, ICE director of bilateral policy, stressed that Venezuela gives great importance to closer commercial and political ties based on the guidelines of a new international economic order. Horak noted that at the present time, there are Czechoslovak technicians working in Venezuela in the area of geology, especially in regard to drilling.

VENEZUELAN STUDENT HELD IN ARGENTINE PRISON

PA010204Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 31 Jul 78 PA

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi hopes that Marinelli, a Venezuelan student who is in prison in Argentina, can soon return to Venezuela. As everyone knows, Marinelli, who was studying in Argentina, disappeared 4 months ago. His family was worried about him and feared for his life. Recently, he was located in a prison in Tucuman, Argentina, accused of participating in subversive activities. Consalvi said that our ambassador to Argentina, Horacio Cardenas Becerra, is doing everything possible to see if Marinelli can soon return to Venezuela.

CARACAS POWER COMPANY HELD UP BY BANDERA ROJA GUERRILLAS

PA051355Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0341 GMT 5 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Caracas, 4 Aug (EFE)--Four men who identified themselves as members of the "Bandera Roja" guerrilla group today held up the "electricidad de Caracas" enterprise and made off with 200,000 bolivares in cash (about $47,000).

The guerrillas, who carried automatic weapons and were dressed in the uniforms of a private guard service, held the enterprise employees at gunpoint and went to the teller's box where an employee was preparing the payrolls of several plants. The extremists, who appeared to know the firm's internal operations very well, said the holdup was "a fund collecting action" for the "Bandera Roja" group.

BRIEFS

DROP IN OIL PRODUCTION--The weekly letter of the Venezuelan Mines and Petroleum Ministry has reported a drop of 178,000 barrels in Venezuela's daily oil production as of 26 July. Until that date, production of crude amounted to 2,079,000 barrels a day. [Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 31 Jul 78 PA]

RADIO MIA CRITICIZES ESCOBAR FOR SABOTAGE COMMENTS

PA040333Y Panama City Radio MIA Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Aug 78 PA

[From the "Resumen Informatio" program with Ramon Pereira and Julio Ortega]

[Excerpts] [Ramon Pereira] [Today's LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA carries a front page column with the following headline:] Jorden Denies Sabotage.

[Julio Ortega] What a thrashing he gives Romulo: Have you not read the letter?

[Ortega] Look, the letter is addressed to the director of the office of information of the chief of government. We have to realize how things are handled diplomatically. If they regard him as the adviser to General Torrijos, then his statements have greater importance. For this reason it is good to classify him as an information chief, who released an inaccurate news report.

[Pereira] The paper says the following is the text of a letter that U.S. Ambassador William J. Jorden sent to Dr Romulo Escobar Bethancourt, director of the information office of the chief of government dated 2 August, 1978: [Pereira begins speaking with feigned English accent] Dear Dr Bethancourt: I was greatly disappointed to read in the newspapers some of the statements you made to a group of Panama Canal employees last Monday evening. Indeed, it is not to much to say that I was shocked. You and I know, from the long negotiating process through which we both have passed, that the fundamental basis for a new treaty relationship is mutual trust, confidence and a sense of partnership. [Pereira stops speaking Spanish with English accent]

I believe that your remarks can only harm that foundation of cooperation, and it distresses me to hear the rhetoric of confrontation used so soon after President Carter's visit. This is a time when our two countries and their officials should be working together, not casting doubts on the other's goodwill. [Pereira stops reading letter to comment] I think that even those who are on the inside have not been able to fully realize how important Carter's visit has been for Panama, for the government itself, for Omar himself. And if they do realize it, then apparently it is not convenient for them to admit it and they are trying to undo it. Apparently they do not have enough brains to think and reflect on it or perhaps the people engaged in sabotage against the general are on the inside and he has not realized it. This is what we have been saying all along.

[Ortega] This is something we have been saying here, that once the negotiations were over, the slogans of those who have been screaming about this for 15 or 20 years would be rendered useless.

So now, Perhaps these phrases [Pereira interrupts: blunders] slip out because they have been repeated for so many years, or since they have nothing else to say, they have to say something... [Pereira interrupts] Something bad, this harms the people.

[Ortega] They are doing this incorrectly.

[Pereira] Let them say things that harm them. Look at what [radio commentator Andres] Vega said this morning at 0530 about what is happening to the representatives who are complaining about a number of things. We have to listen to Vega carefully because he is a very calm man.

[Ortega] Very calm.

[Pereira] He does not get into trouble with anybody. He gets along well with everybody. He stressed precisely what we had said earlier, that many of the employees there are working for their own good and not for the revolution and this is what is happening not only in Chiriqui but around here, too.

[Ortega] At all levels.

[Pereira] They try to work for themselves alone and sometimes they do not realize what they say and how much harm they cause. [continues reading the letter] The word sabotage--the American ambassador continues telling the chief of the government's information office, Dr Escobar Bethancourt--is a very strong word, indeed. Yet you chose to use it in what I can only describe as a rather cavalier fashion. When a lawyer makes that kind of charge, he really should have evidence to support it. I believe there is no such evidence. In any case, I am not aware that you or anyone else in the Panamanian Government has asked for any detailed explanation of the developments to which you affix this excessive word. [Pereira comments] Gee, what a thrashing, man: This is a real beating.

[Ortega] He is really tanning his hide.

[Pereira continues reading letter] Everyone in Panama has been well aware that there has been a backlog of ships at both ends of the canal for some time. That situation did not develop "an hour after the treaty ratification instruments were exchanged," as you alleged. It began, as all of us are aware, last March and it worsened after that date. It was caused by a number of factors. First, the volume of traffic through the canal increased--an average of four more ships a day after March. Second, the size of ships involved also increased [Ortega interrupts] in other words, business is booming, [chuckles] [Pereira continues reading letter] necessitating more time, more equipment and more personnel, and the heaviest flow came at a time when significant numbers of key personnel were on leave. Further, there was a serious accident involving a ship in the canal in April which added to the congestion. That accident was well-publicized at the time and was the subject of three detailed news releases by the Canal Company.

I guess what appalls me the most, Romulo, is that the backlog--which you attribute to base motives--was, in fact, totally eliminated by the time you spoke. From a total of more than 70 ships waiting to transmit the canal over the recent months, the number dropped to less than 20 this week, a completely normal figure, I am told.

That remarkable feat was accomplished by dedicated men and women, by Panamanians and Americans, working together and working long hours to get the job done. These loyal and hardworking people deserve our praise, not our slander.

[Ortega] Yes!

[Pereira continues reading letter] These loyal and hardworking people deserve our... [no longer reading] No, I am going to tell you something. I am going to tell you something something, Julito. I think it is high time--forgive me, Ambassador, for interrupting your letter, but I will continue reading it later--that we Panamanians who went to a plebiscite, voted yes and accepted what the Americans gave us, and who will have to see what happens, do not interfere in these things which precisely belong to us already because even the general said: Anybody who thinks he is capable of helping or making suggestions as to what we should do with the canal can come to work with us; let him come because we will welcome him. This is very appropriate.

[Ortega] And Carter said partners.

[Pareira] Right. Therefore, the Canal belongs to me, too, and I am a partner. I am not going to indulge in the luxury of remaining silent here when these things are done because I do not want any more nonsense. We have suffered too much. We have experienced too many problems to look for any more. What we should be doing is thinking about the fact that within the next few months they will be turning things over to us. The police will get out of there in 4 years. Did you know that?

[Ortega] Yes, yes, yes!

[Pereira] The entire police force is leaving.

[Ortega] They will begin to return... [Pereira interrupts] In other words, the canal. what will be turned over to us, does not belong to [Escobar] Bethancourt or anybody else. It belongs to us. It is mine, too.

[Ortega] Right!

[Pereira] And I want some of what I have so strenuously fought for to remain for my children and grandchildren. I say I fought for it.

[Ortega] And for which we did so much.

[Pereira] In general terms, this station has fought, brother.

[Ortega] Yes, yes, yes, and we have done much.

[Pereira] So, it is high time they stop making so many statements and doing things which injure us all.

[Ortega] Now, you know that for any government anywhere in the world an incident such as this would immediately result in the removal of the official who committed the blunder. This is automatic.

[Pereria] No, these are irreplaceable elements within the... [Ortega interrupts] That is right. I forgot.

[Pereira] Remember, there are those who are needed and are irreplaceable. They are irreplaceable. [words indistinct]

[Ortega laughs] Well, the letter continues: That remarkable feat was accomplished by dedicated men and women, by Panamanians and Americans, working together and working long hours to get the job done. These loyal and hardworking people deserve our praise, not our slander. After you have had a chance to look into the facts, I hope you will see fit to render some kind of recognition to these exemplary members of the work force of the canal.

As you know, our two governments are presently engaged in a period of intensive planning for carrying out the many responsibilities of the new treaties to the greatest advantage of both parties. When one or the other side has any official concern about problems, I would hope that we both would use the joint planning mechanism to express those concerns and work toward their resolution. That approach, it seems to me, would be in the spirit of what you and I and many others of our countrymen worked so hard for so many years to achieve. Hasty and unfounded statements by either side don't serve our high and totally admirable goals as we move into a new period of history.

Since your remarks received such wide publicity, I feel I should make the above comments available to the same source, and I hope you will receive my views in the spirit in which they are intended.

Most sincerely, William J. Jorden.

[Pereira comments] But I see here that instead of giving this the coverage that they gave the other [remarks]--to which they gave prominent coverage--they just give this a one-column treatment on a single page. No, I do not think this is right. It is good that such replies be made and not only by the ambassador. All of us Panamanians should be attentive to this subject because we all participated in this problem and we all participated in its approval because we voted in a plebiscite. I feel I am involved when these things happen because I voted yes and I do not regret it. They are even calling upon all of us who can offer some insights regarding improvements... [changes thought] operation of the canal. Therefore, let us hope more care will be taken next time because we are all affected.

RADIO HOGAR DISCUSSES AMBASSADOR JORDEN'S LETTER

PA041426Y Panama City Radio Hogar in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Aug 78 PA

[From the "Comentarios y Opiniones del Profesor Don Lucho" program with Lucho Pimentel, Tonin Cabezas and guest speaker identified only as Faundes]

[Text] [Don Lucho] We have read the letter which Ambassador William Jorden sent to Romulo Escobar Bethancourt. Frankly, I am very worried about the problems being created for our country due to improvisation. Only a few days ago abundant information on our country's foreign policy, as released by our Foreign Ministry, was published in all newspapers. But in this poor Panama of ours Dr Romulo Escobar Bethancourt has dared make such statements when, after the signing of the treaties, General Torrijos himself announced that we will seek unity and that we have recovered our full sovereignty over the Canal Zone.

Frankly, I do not understand Romulo's contradictions. I do not understand them because in the opinion of the government and the negotiators, an important battle for freedom and sovereignty has been won in our country. Romulo himself has used these words on several occasions, but, apparently, he is not satisfied and is still talking about U.S. sabotage in the Canal Zone. Frankly, Romulo, you are creating quite a reputation for yourself--that of being incoherent.

Because he was the one who negotiated what has been signed, this gentlemen is associated with a group of individuals whom he now accuses of sabotaging him, and he is saying this at a time when the partnership has not even begun operating. I do not understand this, I do not understand it.

I have always said that what the general has is a group of persons who interpret his words, and they interpret things to their liking. This group of interpreters is led by Romulo. But I still do not understand, I do not understand. In this country we are talking about politics, nationalism, the future and the economy, but one cannot understand anything. And now the U.S. ambassador has scolded one of our officials. How can that be possible? We are in 1978, by God, so what is happening here? The ambassador has scolded a negotiator. Most probably, things happened in this manner: The ambassador phoned the Foreign Ministry and they told him: Well, you already have our little book on Panama's foreign policy. Romulo said what he did in a political outburst. Therefore, Ambassador, send him a letter scolding him.

For his part, the ambassador has also done away with diplomatic practice. Diplomatic practice demands that he make a protest through the Foreign Ministry. I think that he did this--use the Foreign Ministry's channels. Just to give you an idea about the U.S. Governments' pressures and influence in the signing of the treaties, observe that the ambassador has done away with diplomatic practices. In fact, the Panamanian Foreign Ministry could protest that letter. The ambassador cannot openly address a government official like that because if he does, he is stepping outside of diplomatic channels. I do not know how you feel about this, Faundes?

[Faundes] I think, Prof Pimentel, that the ambassador's displeasure and agitation were so overwhelming that he disregarded diplomatic channels in order to be able to issue that protest. This may be why he did not resort to the Foreign Ministry and instead directly addressed Dr Romulo Escobar Bethancourt.

But these things occur with Romulo Escobar Bethancourt because he has never respected principles. A man of principles does not take part in actions such as these. Look at the principles you just mentioned. You referred to his many contradictions. Escobar once belonged to the political parties which he now openly condemns in such a crude and severe fashion. We all know each other here in Panama, we all know where we stand, which political organizations we have belonged to, how we have acted. And yet, on 11 October, on that fateful night of 11 October 1968, those men who had been on the side of the parties came out and climbed like good acrobats atop the next regime, which had staged a military coup that never had any popular support. That was the military coup of 11 October 1968.

To confirm that he does not respect principles, [I would like to point out that] he has also engaged in the task of denying and distorting a number of facts, such as the ones mentioned earlier by Batista [Not further identified]. Take the political meetings which I myself attended. I do not exaggerate or fantasize when speaking about facts; but public opinion and the citizenry have repudiated and repudiate this regime because they do not believe in it. Look at the events held last week in Colon and the event held in Chiriqui, where even the locals said that in the history of our republic there had never been a political meeting such as the one held on Sunday morning in Chiriqui and the one held on Monday afternoon in Boquete. Dr Arnulfo Arias and the opposition parties around him were acclaimed. After the Chorrera meeting, it was also said there that there had never been a similar meeting. The same thing happened in Colon, Penonome and Herrera where, according to the locals themselves, there were between 15,000 and 20,000 persons. These are true facts, which have no connection with the squalid [figures] to which Escobar referred. He takes advantage of the very small meetings held with the state's money for which 50 or 100 buses are used to take public employees to them. They never get the local people, as the Panamenist and other opposition parties--which are with Dr Arnulfo Arias aimed at restoring true democracy in our country--have done. That is why it is a farce when they bring foreign delegates and university rectors here supposedly to show them some senseless election, an election which represents a farce and a fraud, as the Movement of Independent Lawyers and the Democratic Independent Movement state in a letter that will be personally delivered to each of the delegates and university rectors coming to see this farce.

MATUTINO ON GOVERNMENT-CANAL ZONE RESIDENTS MEETING

PA041455Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 3 Aug 78 p 4A PA

["Vox Populi Vox Dei" column by Luis Restrepo R.: "Important Revelations"]

[Text] First of all, from now on we should get used to forgetting the colonialist enclave known as the "Panama Canal Zone." With the ratification of the Torrijos-Carter treaties in Panama City, the expression "Canal Zone" passed into history just as the 1903 treaty did.

The insulting name given to that part of the national territory had its origins in that likewise insulting document, which was destroyed by the relentless force of the historic events that made the Panamanian isthmus an essential part of the struggles for liberation and sovereignty of the world's peoples.

We should get used to calling what has been recovered the Panama Canal and the Panama Canal area. The word "zone" is immediately identified with the colonialist imposition and the word "zonians" with those who dreamed of making it theirs forever.

An important meeting was held on Monday night at the Justo Arosemena Palace among high-level government officials, citizens living in communities located in the canal area and spokesmen of labor, peasant, civic, youth and church organizations interested in the canal area's problems.

The reason behind the meeting was to analyze current problems in the area and those that might emerge due to the measures which the Pananamian state might adopt in the future as the sovereign of the recovered area. The meeting was opportune and interesting. Very important revelations were made during the meeting, revelations which should help the study and solution of the problems of the canal area.

During the debate, the denunciation of an agrarian worker in that area of the country drew special attention. According to the vehement denunciation of agricultural worker Rogelio Sanchez, he "has to pay a fourth of all he harvests to those who hold the licenses which permit those lands to be worked."

That is to say, the administrators of that sector of the national territory permitted the establishment there of a feudal system involving the exploitation of the working man. In the manner a feudal lord, those who obtained the license or right over a parcel of land rent that land to the Panamanian peasants, making them pay with their agricultural products for the right to work and earn a living. Another aspect of the inhuman exploitation that is practiced there has thus been uncovered. It would be intersting to find out who the ones are who have benefited from the feudal system denounced by the Panamanian worker.

Sanchez also dramatically denounced situations caused by the republic's public administration. These denunciations must be corrected immediately so that this Panamanian will not consider himself to have been abandoned because he is not even included on "the electoral registry."

Other interesting subjects were courageously discussed. They included subjects dealing with churches, health, youth organizations, wages, social security, housing, the community system and so on. The citizens living in the canal area and those who work there were able to speak out and were heard with the attention due them. They were also given specific information on the government's plans for this area, an area vital to the country's integral development.

Dr Romulo Escobar Bethancourt discussed the problem that has been affecting the transit of ship through the waterway between the two oceans. According to Dr Escobar Bethancourt, what is occurring is suspicious. He considers it to be an act of sabotage, more an act of provocation, precisely after the ratification of the Torrijos-Carter treaties. On analyzing the aspects of this problem concerning transit through the canal and the excuses that are given regarding what is occurring, one has no choice but to view it from all angles because it could be the result of natural causes and admissible human defects or it could be the result of a criminal action that responds to hidden and ill-willed intentions.

The Panamanians know that the canal area is highly sensitive and that those who struggled so that it would not be turned over to its legitimate owners could very well try to destroy it.

COSTA RICA

TWO NICARAGUAN FISHING BOATS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY

PA040336Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 Aug 78 PA

[Text] A Costa Rican patrol boat has arrested two Nicaraguan launches fishing in Costa Rican waters. The crew members are at Cocos Beach while the captains are at the disposal of the authorities. About 700 tons of porgy will be confiscated by government officials. Interior Ministry officials are studying international regulations to adopt appropriate measures.

Pargo 7 and Pargo 8, both Nicaraguan vessels, were captured by Costa Rican officials 20 miles offshore near Santa Elena Bay, according to information from Minister Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey this afternoon. The crew was allowed to land at Cocos Beach. The two captains are under arrest at the disposal of the authorities while the pertinent legal matters are resolved.

This is the first time under the current administration that Nicaraguan vessels have been detained and the crew arrested. The boats apparently leave from San Juan del Sur for our waters, skirting the national coastline.

The interior minister said that about 700 tons of porgy will be confiscated from the two Nicaraguan boats caught fishing in Costa Rican waters. Francisco Peralta, the ministry's legal adviser, has been sent to the area to collect the pertinent information for the case to be discussed with the legal authorities. The two boats named Pargo were fishing 20 miles off Costa Rica's coast near Playa Blanca in Santa Elena Bay.

Third Vessel Apprehended

PA052213Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1900 GMT 5 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] San Jose, 5 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--A third pirate fishing boat, presumably Nicaraguan, was captured yesterday, Friday, in Costa Rican waters by security authorities. The arrest occurred in the same area of the Pacific Ocean near Santa Elena Bay where two small fishing boats manned by Nicaraguans were captured on Wednesday.

Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria told EFE today that the boat was placed under the jurisdiction of the courts as were the boats previously captured. The name of the vessel is Don Tomas. It is presumed that it is a Nicaraguan boat, but this has not yet been determined.

The captains of the three fishing boats are under arrest at police headquarters in Liberia, capital of Guanacaste Province bordering Nicaragua. The crewmen are at the small port of Cocos Beach near Liberia.

Crew To Be Returned

PA060350Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Aug 78 PA

[Text] [Words indistinct] the fishing boats might be sold, the authorities have stated. The Nicaraguan crewmen of the Pargo 7 and Pargo 8 fishing boats will be sent back to their country. After giving their testimony before judicial authorities in Liberia, the group of 16 Nicaraguan fishermen will be sent back to their country soon.

Interior Ministry officials have reported that the other group of 13 fishermen is expected to give testimony on Monday and will then also be allowed to leave the country. It was reported that all could not testify at once and for this reason they will be sent back in two groups.

Meanwhile, the two fishing boats are still being detained by authorities in Puntarenas.

NICARAGUA PROTESTS PRESENCE OF ANTI-SOMOZA GUERRILLAS

PA050302Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2319 GMT 4 Aug 78 PA

[Text] San Jose, 4 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Juan Bautista Lacayo, Nicaraguan ambassador to this country, delivered a protest note this afternoon from his government to Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon on the alleged lack of action by Costa Rican authorities concerning the presence of guerrillas who promote the overthrow of the government of Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle.

The Nicaraguan diplomat met with the foreign minister at 1430 local time (2030 GMT). The text of the message signed by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Julio Quintana was not revealed. Immediately afterward, Minister Calderon began to write the reply to the Nicaraguan protest. A close aide of Minister Calderon said that in his reply, the foreign minister will openly reject the Nicaraguan charges and at the same time will reaffirm that Costa Rica respects international agreements and treaties.

According to the same spokesman, the Costa Rican foreign minister will also point out to his Nicaraguan colleague that the government and people of Costa Rica want peace and tranquillity to prevail in Nicaragua. It was reported that the reply might be delivered to Ambassador Bautista Lacayo tomorrow, Saturday.

Protest Rejected

PA050304Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Our country today rejected a protest filed by the Nicaraguan Government regarding the attack against the Nicaraguan National Guard posts of Savalos and El Castillo. The Costa Rican Foreign Ministry notes that the protest is rejected because it does not reflect the true facts. The government of General Somoza has claimed that Costa Rica permits the free movement of anti-Somoza guerrillas of the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

NICARAGUA

DETAILS OF PROTEST NOTE TO COSTA RICA

PA050303Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2225 GMT 4 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 4 Aug (LATIN)--Foreign Minister Julio Quintana said today that the Soviet Embassy and the Cuban Consulate in Costa Rica "are coordinating subversion in all the Central American countries." He reported that these charges are contained in the protest note which the Nicaraguan Government delivered to Costa Rica. He said the note is based on the specific facts that those who invaded Nicaragua to attack the garrisons in Granada and Rivas several months ago, and those who invaded this country to attack the garrisons in Sabalos and El Castillo came from and returned to Costa Rica.

In news statements, the foreign minister said that the Sandinist National Liberation Front moves about with great freedom in Costa Rican territory. It has many facilities there for training its members, he said, making plans and moving toward the Nicaraguan border without any diffiuclty.

CHURCH HIERARCHY CALLS ON SOMOZA TO RESIGN

PA042034Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1459 GMT 4 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 4 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The archbishop of Managua and the clergymen under him yesterday tacitly invited the president of the republic, Gen Anastasio Somoza, to resign in order to create "the foundations for the construction of a more humane society." Following an "unprecedented, constructive and urgent analysis of the rapidly deteriorating national situation," Monsignor Miguel Obando y Bravo and the 11 members of the council asked Nicaraguan politicans the following question: Why not direct all our efforts toward achieving trust and credibility among ourselves?

The council feels that "a conscientious evaluation of the number of dead, the economic losses, the misery and sorrow caused by delaying a solution could lead to mutual concessions and to the creation of a national transitional government." In its message to the people, the council explained that "depending upon the persons who participate in that government and the actions and measures it may commit itself to undertake, such a government could well restore the Nicaraguan people's trust and credibility."

The clergymen pointed out that "as an option in the mutual concessions policy, the incumbent president, through his resignation, could encourage the creation of that national government which, supported by the majority of the population, would save Nicaragua from falling into a state of anarchy--an ever-present menace in all transformation processes." The clergymen added: "Who could refuse to contribute generously to stopping the grief and anguish, the killings and hatred and to restoring the people's peace, civilized dialog, desire to participate in the making of their country's history and the fraternal joy of sharing in its destiny?"

The council assured that only through such a compromise could brotherly coexistence be achieved and the conditions for the democratization process established. This process, it continued, shall lead within a reasonable period of time to truly free elections that will bring to power a majority party or coalition of parties.

Monsignor Obando y Bravo and the clergymen also pointed to the political confrontation affecting the country which, far from leading to alternative solutions, is becoming deeper every day with an escalation of violence which apparently cannot be stopped. "We learn practically every day about one or more persons being killed. There is more bloodshed among brothers everyday to the extent that we are already facing a virtual civil war where mercy and love are withering away," they added.

The clergymen warned that extremism as well as the policy of national security do not propitiate a democratic and fraternal future. "On the contrary, both are not destroying the past and disturbing the present, but are closing the door on any possible future." The council concluded: "It is before this menace of fratricidal extermination that we, as pastors of the Christian population, make an appeal for meditation and positive action on behalf of peace and justice."

CASTRO BIDS FAREWELL TO YOUTH AT FESTIVAL'S END

FL052326Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2247 GMT 5 Aug 78 FL

[Speech by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro at public rally in Havana's Jose Marti Revolution Plaza, marking closing of 11th World Youth and Students Festival--live]

[Text] Dear delegates and guests of honor to the 11th festival. Dear compatriots. It is difficult to make a speech when we know that thousands in the audience speak the most diverse languages and not all of them have a translator at their side. In such circumstances it is my duty and obligation to be brief. This is a closing event, thus it is also a farewell ceremony, and farewells are usually sad. The days went by very quickly and it looks as if time flies when one is happy and full of joy. Our people made this festival its own. From the very first moment it learned that Cuba was going to be the host nation its people worked tirelessly to offer their beloved young guests the best of welcomes. The students in the classrooms, the workers in the factories and countryside, the most diverse workers at their centers of production and service, the children, the adults, the aged, men and women--all of them set their own individual and collective goals. They all vied with each other to honor the 11th festival. [applause]

All of this contributed to give life, joy and extraordinary enthusiasm to the festival. The country has been observing a holiday. A warm and humane atmosphere, a pure environment of fraternity, optimism and solidarity was breathed everywhere. How beautiful a world youth festival can really be! [applause] The festival itself, with its extensiveness, broadness, multifaceted forms, its hundreds of daily activities--many times simultaneously--was unembraceable. One could barely follow it. One could only imagine it.

The best of the world's youth met in our country, tireless and unselfish fighters, some with chests full of medals, outstanding workers in the most diverse spheres, brilliant students, eminent artists, men and women of great repute, talent, enthusiasm, optimism at the height of their lives and in whose chests burns the unextinguishable flame of just ideas, progress and brotherhood among peoples and men. [applause]

You cannot imagine what a great honor it was for our country. All just causes, the most noble activities to which mankind devotes its efforts today, were represented here. Especially brilliant were the feelings of solidarity and peace which were the inspiration of this festival's slogan. Solidarity is necessary, essential, unavoidable among the flag bearers and combatants of human progress to hold hands, close ranks, multiply forces, overcome obstacles, defeat powerful enemies and march united on the paths of man's freedom, dignity, well-being and happiness. [applause]

Peace is what the people want, what the youths and children demand with immeasurable strength in this nuclear age in order to preserve their right to live and a better future for all peoples in the face of the adventurers, warmongers, the insatiable devourers of men and peoples. War against war, proclaim the youths of the world. [applause] The warmongers will not be successful. [applause] Those who want to lead the world to a nuclear holocaust rather than resign themselves to the idea of not exploiting men or peoples will not be successful. [applause]

The adventurers who insanely proclaim and predict disaster for mankind will not be successful. [applause]

What will happen is that sooner or later imperialism, warmongering, colonialism, neocolonialism, fascism, racism, Zionism and all the forms of exploitation, oppression and humiliation of man, which are the exclusive characteristics of capitalist and class society, will pass into history's trash can which awaits them. [prolonged applause]

Men and people will not resign themselves to self-destruction or oppression. They will gain peace and, at the same time, will gain liberty. [applause]

This enormous crowd, despite the torrential rains that fell just minutes ago, despite last night's fiestas which lasted until dawn, these united, noble and enthusiastic people gathered here with you, young delegates to the festival, have come here to tell you that they share your struggles, concerns and hopes. They come to support, with their presence, the ideas and feelings that emanated from the 11th festival. They have come to offer the contribution of their pure conscience and unyielding revolutionary, solidary and internationalist spirit to the best causes of the world's youth. [applause]

This extraordinary public rally demonstrates, in itself, the invincible force of just ideas. You, with your constant contacts during these past few days, have been able to confirm the nature of our people, their revolutionary passion, their political culture, their fraternal and solidary spirit.

No one, no mechanism, no instrument could have created this gigantic presence. Much less could the enthusiasm and emotion be fabricated. It is their deep understanding of the social and political problems of today's world, their infinite sympathies for what you represent, their wish to express adherence and solidarity which have made them gather at this plaza. The people know that a part of the youths gathered here already live in socialism and are their intimate friends in the same community. [The people know] that many others are youngsters whose people are struggling under the most difficult conditions against fascism, racism, neocolonialism, Zionism, imperialism and, in sum, against the most varied forms of aggression and oppression; that some live in developed capitalist countries, experiencing economic crises, unemployment which primarily affects the young, exploitation of workers, corruption and alienation; that others live in economically underdeveloped and, in many cases, neocolonized countries, surrounded by poverty, illiteracy, lack of public health and social backwardness.

These energetic and militant people that came here to bid you farewell with tears in their eyes of their women, men and children, fully share with all of you the hopes for a better world and, with you, want to forge it. [applause]

We will not forget you, dear and close friends. We will not forget the fighters of Nicaragua, Guatemala, [applause], El Salvador [applause], Haiti [applause], Puerto Rico [applause], Bolivia [applause], Chile [applause], Uruguay [applause], Paraguay [applause], Argentina [applause], and Brazil. [applause]

We will not forget their glorious dead, those who have disappeared, those who have been tortured, those who are in prison. We will not forget our brothers from Latin America and the Caribbean. We will not forget the youths who are fighting for civil rights in the United States, [applause] the blacks, Indians, Chicanos, Puerto Ricans, Latin Americans [applause], in general, the North American youths who are facing unemployment and other injustices in the midst of the imperialist monster. We will not forget the fighters of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe, [applause] who fight against atrocious apartheid, fascism and colonialism.

We will not forget the courageous combatants of the West Saharan people, [applause] our inseparable friends from Angola, Mozambique and Ethiopia, [applause] our black African and Arab brothers. [applause] We will not forget the Cypriot and Lebanese peoples. [applause] We will never forget the heroic Palestinian people [applause] who have been deprived of their land, nor the just cause of the Arab peoples in their struggle against imperialist-Zionist aggression. We will not forget the peoples of Democratic Yemen, [applause] of Laos, [applause] of Afghanistan, [applause] who have initiated their revolution on promising and firm ground, the combatants for the liberation of Oman and eastern Timor, [applause] the Korean people in their effort for an end to imperialist intervention and the reunification of their fatherland. [applause] We will not forget admirable and heroic Vietnam [applause] in its struggles against new and ignominious forms of provocation, hostility and aggression. We will not forget our brothers from Asia. We will not forget the youths and workers of Western Europe and Canada [applause] with their just and noble demands. The just causes of all peoples of America, Africa, Asia and Europe will be able to count, without any hesitation, on our sympathy and support. [applause]

Within a few hours our beloved visitors will begin departing. Some will return to creative work and studies in their liberated fatherlands like ours. But we know very well that a large number of them will return to the hell of tyrannical societies or to the offensive and bitter life of the world neocolonized by imperialism or the imperialist and capitalist countries themselves which exploit human labor.

Youths of the world, we wish to express our deeply felt recognition of this beautiful and solidary gesture of holding the festival in our fatherland. Never before have we been so highly honored. [applause] We have done our best to be equal to the challenge of such an immense honor. If we have been deficient, we beg you to forgive us, because never before has anything been done with such love and dedication as the effort by our people to welcome you as you deserve. [applause]

We should not be the ones to judge the quality of this festival which has been held in our country. You are the ones who can do so. If you believe it has been successful we will never take it as our success but the success of all the youths of the world. [applause] The memories of these unforgettable days together with you will never disappear from our minds. We feel encouraged to do better in order to be equal to the youths and the world we have known in these past days. We feel more committed than ever before to the cause of anti-imperialist solidarity, peace and friendship, to the cause of revolution and internationalism in order to be worthy of the trust, respect and solidarity demonstrated by you. Fatherland or death, we shall win! [prolonged applause]

FINAL SESSIONS OF TRIBUNAL AGAINST IMPERIALISM HELD

U.S. Citizens Testify

FL041800 [Editorial Report FL] Havana Domestic Television Service, channel 13, in Spanish at 1430 GMT on 4 Aug begins live coverage of the sixth day of sessions of the "youth accuses imperialism" international tribunal from the Camilo Cienfuegos Hall of the Cuban Academy of Sciences. Today's topic is "imperialism as a system that provokes the social, economic, political and cultural ills of youth."

An unidentified announcer states that the deposition on today's charge is being presented by (Anton Berry), a U.S. delegate to the youth festival.

The U.S. delegate's deposition is intercepted in progress. He is speaking in English with a simultaneious translation into Spanish. He notes that imperialism uses exploitation to maintain a position of strength and does not hesitate to use barbaric means to gain its objectives, including war on the youth of the Third World countries, as well as war on its own youth. He adds that the attempts of youth to gain an education and to fulfill its legitimate aspirations are hindered by imperialism. The imperialists use greed to undermine youth, he adds. He notes that the agencies which control the mass media have two goals: to isolate youth from current problems and to bring them under imperialist domination to the point where they will carry out orders without thinking.

He adds that imperialist communications media try to instill a consumer mentality and that this affects Third World countries and oppressed countries. He notes that only the rich and the super rich have access to the way of life presented by the U.S. media. Others have been excluded from a productive life, he notes. He adds that there is discrimination in the United States against Chicanos, Puerto Ricans, blacks and other minorities. He accuses imperialism in general and U.S. imperialism in particular of endangering the life of the younger generation by making preparations for war and by systematically attacking the oppressed peoples who are fighting for their liberation. He cites as an example of the criminal nature of U.S. imperialism its intervention in Vietnam. He adds that the military-industrial complex has amassed vast amounts of money and power and is responsible for the deterioration of the morals of youth. He refers to the involvement of the CIA in assassinations and in the violation of the national sovereignty of foreign countries. He then turns to the rampant abuse of drugs and alcohol in imperialist countries. He notes that the CIA has experimented with these drugs. He mentions controversial tests with a drug called (?MK Ultra). He notes that the CIA uses student exchange programs to obtain intelligence information in various countries of the world. He notes that the CIA recruits studends and teachers in the United States by means of intimidation. He notes that the CIA used the so-called Peace Corps in Latin America to gather strategic information in those countries. He then goes on to discuss unemployment in capitalist countries and notes that the capitalist system is not able to guarantee jobs to those who need them. He adds that unemployment particularly affects black Americans. He discusses the U.S. Government's attitude toward human rights and notes that it is setting itself up as the champion of human rights, but that this is only a facade. He adds that the imperialist system is in decay and offers no opportunities for youth. He notes that Carter goes around the world accusing countries of violating human rights and yet he refuses to recognize that minorities in the United States are daily victims of racism. He discusses racism and says that it is used to keep blacks and minorities in an inferior economic position. He criticizes monopolies for exploiting and controlling Third World countries. He discusses the unequal position of women in imperialist and capitalist countries. He notes that the United States uses the CIA as a tool to intervene in other countries. He notes that the CIA tries to pressure foreign governments and peoples to further the interests of the United States. He notes that the CIA has tried to make the 11th World Youth and Students Festival fail.

The president of the Jury then asks for the witnesses to verify the charges made by the U.S. delegate.

The first witness is U.S. citizen Teresa (Crocker). She speaks in English with a simultaneous translation into Spanish. She accuses imperialism for many ills an all areas of life. She notes that in the U.S. and in other imperialist countries there are refined methods of discrimininations, as for example within the legal system.

These methods are aimed at keeping people in ignorance, she notes. She adds that the conservatives and archconservatives twist the laws for their own ends.

The second witness is Dolores (Bight), of the United States. She speaks in English with a simultaneous translation into Spanish. She accuses imperialism of not respecting the rights of youth in the area of education in the United States. She notes that the opportunity for public education is diminishing constantly because there is not enough money to finance this education. She notes that most of money goes for military purposes, while the rate of illiteracy continues to rise in the United States. She notes that it is the minority youth in the United States most affected by this situation. She decries discrimination for reasons of race and sex and notes that this discrimination is inherent in the U.S. educational system.

The third witness is Richard Walters, of Jamaica. He speaks in English with a simultaneous translation into Spanish. He criticizes imperialism for its treatment of youth. He cites crimes which were committed against youth in Jamaica under imperialism. He notes that the Jamaican people have decided to fight against this and to determine their own fate without the intervention of the United States. He notes that Jamaica has cast off economic repression and economic dependence. He accuses the CIA of intervening in Jamaican affairs.

Coverage ends at 1700 GMT as the proceedings are adjourned until 1900 GMT.

Final Testimony Heard

FL042257 [Editorial Report FL] Havana Domestic Television Service, channel 13, in Spanish at 1930 GMT 4 August begins coverage in progress of afternoon session of sixth day of sessions of "youth accuses imperialism" international tribunal from the Camilo Cienfuegos Hall of the Cuban Academy of Sciences.

Coverage begins with an unidentified television announcer stating that television coverage is being resumed as an unidentified Bolivian student is presenting his report to the tribunal on the torture of his sister and niece by Bolivian police.

At 1935 GMT audio and video coverage is lost for approximately 4 minutes. The speaker ends his presentation at 1942 GMT.

The second witness is (Unana Cruz), from El Salvador. She reports on political repression in El Salvador. She begins speaking at 2003 GMT about peasant repression in the country. She goes on to list people who are missing in her country, among them her son. She ends her presentation by stating that a women's group has taken over the Red Cross in San Salvador in protest over missing persons. She ends her presentation at 2023 GMT.

The fourth witness is (Silvia Bramley), from the FRG. She discusses repression in the FRG for political views, for supporting socialist countries and opposing such countries as Chile. She begins speaking at 2026 GMT and ends at 2035 GMT.

The fifth speaker is Genaro Carnero Checa, who is president of the Latin American Federation of Journalists. He discusses Western mass media and its domination, adding that the West no longer needs to resort to force. It now uses such institutions as the International Monetary Fund. Audio and video coverage are lost at 2046 GMT, apparently from technical problems.

At 2106 GMT television returns to the tribunal with the presentation in progress of an unidentified Arab delegate discussing Israeli repression of the Palestinians. He concludes his presentation at 2128.

The next witness is (Pierre Charles) of Haiti, who begins his presentation at 2144 GMT. He then presents (Elisabeth Philisbert), who tells about the birth of her child in the Duvalier jail. Her presentation ends at 2144 GMT.

The following witness is (Ivan Bertelen), from Denmark. Audio and video is lost at 2153 GMT and returns at 2155 GMT. He discusses unemployement in his country and the problem of students studying subject areas in which there are no jobs. He ends his presentation at 2202 GMT.

The next witness is (Fineas Rattman), from Guyana, who discusses British imperialism in his country by recounting his country's history from the 1950's to the present. He then goes on to quote from Philip Agee's book, on CIA activities in Guyana. His presentation concludes at 2219 GMT.

The last witness is (Catherine Robin) of France, who begins her presentation at 2220 GMT. She condemns French imperialism for its effects on French youth. Among the charges are: unemployment, jobs that are not commensurate with students' education and the poor quality of life in general. She ends her presentation at 2234 GMT.

The tribunal president then concludes the session by stating that the "youth accuses imperialism" tribunal has concluded its public sessions but will continue its private sessions. He notes that the closing ceremony will take place at 1400 GMT on Saturday 5 August.

Verdict on Imperialism

FL060049Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Aug 78 FL

[Text] [begin tribunal president recording] In condemning imperialism and its leader, North American imperialism, as the promoter and supporter of all manifestations of fascism, colonialism, neocolonialism and racism, and as the main force of aggression and war and the worst enemy of the peoples; we issue a call for an indestructible unity among revolutionary, democratic and progressive youth and all the peoples who are struggling for anti-imperialist solidarity, peace and friendship. [applause] [end recording].

This is what Hugo Villar, president of the "youth accuses imperialism" international tribunal, stated upon reading the decision of that forum which met for seven days at the Cuban Academy of Sciences. The tribunal issued its verdict after hearing accusations in the statements made by the national preparatory committees of Palestine, South Africa, Vietnam Cuba, Chile and the United States and hearing presentations from the experts, witnesses and victims of imperialist torture and aggression.

The tribunal also heard depositions from former CIA officers and the forum was also able to study abundant evidence. The tribunal convincingly supported each of the six charges which were brought against imperialism and at one point in the presentation, in substantiating the accusation against colonialism and neocolonialism, that high international forum convicted imperialism of being responsible for:

[Begin Hugo Villar recording] Maintaining, through force, the colonial status of the peoples of Palestine, Puerto Rico, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Western Sahara, Belize and eastern Timor. [end recording]

In referring to the topic of the imperialist aggression the tribunal recounted a long list of insurgency activities carried out by imperialism and its agents of crime, and condemned imperialism as the main enemy of the people for attacking Vietnam, Angola, Zimbabwe, Namibia and Ethiopia; for meddling in the internal affairs of Africa and for forming mercenary groups.

At one point in the report on this charge the president of the tribunal made a direct reference to Vietnam:

[Begin Hugo Villar recording] Because of its war of aggression and infinite escalation of crimes perpetrated against the basic national rights of the Vietnamese people and the aftermath of genocide and ethnic genocide, the persistent imperialist and reactionary policy against that heroic people and imperialist plotting with international reactionary forces in instigating conflicts among peoples to weaken their struggle constitute a threat to international peace and security. [end recording]

The "youth accuses imperialism" international tribunal which today issued its verdict condemned imperialism for all types of aggression it creates and organizes, for the economic blockades, for the string of military bases which it maintains throughout the world as a spear to be used to halt peoples' liberation and in preparing for new aggression.

RODRIGUEZ RETURNS FROM BELGRADE NONALINED MEETING

FL041040 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 4 Aug 78 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministries, has returned to our country at the conclusion of a visit to Yugoslavia which lasted several days. During his stay in that country Carlos Rafael held talks with leaders of the Yugoslav Government and party and leaders of the nonalined countries movement.

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